

# On the Role of Lenin's Experience of National Self-determination in China's National Liberation Movement

## -- Reading Constitutional Changes of A Unified Multi-Ethnic Country

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### Abstract

The construction of the Soviet union experience for the revolution of the communist party of China, is the main object of reference, self-determination and our country from the system of regional national autonomy, is after a long time exploration of good choice to adapt to local conditions, is different from the Soviet union road, system with Chinese characteristics, but the Leninist self-determination is an important experience has important guiding role.

### Keywords

Nationality, communism, self-determination.

## 1. Leninist Experience of National Self-Determination

Lenin is the master of the theory of national self-determination. Similarly, he insisted on the basic principle of national theory of Marx and Engels, that is, the judgment of national self-determination should be extracted from the historical fact of national liberation movement, and the economic foundation determines the superstructure. The logic is based on the understanding of national and social development as a starting point, and at the time of the conditions, solve the problem of self-determination is dependent on the oppressed nationalities efforts for a long time, relying on socialist action, its essence is also linked to the anti-imperialist movement, self-determination is the struggle for national liberation struggle, objected to the oppression of mergers and revolutionary movements. Lenin led the Russian socialist revolution movement took power a full practice, so in the process of revolution, his cognition for solving ethnic problems are further clear, the socialist revolutionary movement in colonial liberation must be unconditional, is essentially to the national self-determination, given the political legitimacy.

"Lenin's theory of national self-determination, as he said, is not an abstract legal definition but must be understood in the context of a concrete political movement. First of all, the object of their national self-determination is imperialism, which means that the vast number of oppressed nations, including the Chinese nation, get rid of the political, economic, cultural and other servitude of the imperialists and realize true national independence and liberation. Secondly, the right of national self-determination and the right of national separation mentioned by Lenin are aimed at opposing national oppression and at uniting the proletarians on a larger scale, rather than at secession. Finally, in the theory of marxist ethnic political liberation, national war, self-determination must be oppressed nationalities for self-determination and liberation against imperialist colonial rule, rather than between the imperialists to plunder resources occurring in the course of the war, more than individual national elite for the good of the individual or a particular class of ethnic separatist activities of so-called "self-determination"." Precisely because of this, Lenin initially opposed the then

federal system. He believed that the federal system would weaken the economic development, so it was not suitable to be a form of state construction. Why did the Soviet regime go to the Soviet Union? Federalism remained the preferred option of the new Soviet regime. Its essence or as a result of the Russian revolution is to encourage the frontier independent liberation, and this kind of independent main purpose is to against the oppression and from the oppression of the capitalist and feudal system, after independence can be in accordance with the principle of voluntary, class equality, combination of again, so, federalism form for the Soviet is to solve the problem of multi-ethnic society, history, if returned to a single system, the leadership of the proletariat regime easily again from a stable state. Lenin believed that federalism was a transitional form, and the ultimate goal was to realize the close integration of the working people of all ethnic groups. Therefore, in the process of building political ruling power, it still adhered to democratic centralism, and the unified leadership of the Party was still the core position. Moreover, it was necessary to constantly strengthen intra-party identification and optimize economic order.

The Soviet union to the problem of national political practice is one of the more persistent work, but at first, Lenin as builders also said the federal system is actually a form of compromise, the real self-determination is the entire joint self-determination of the proletariat, the Soviet toward federalism and is not a fundamental way of solving the national problems, actually how to solve the ethnic problems in the politics of the Soviet union, it remains to be explored.

## 2. A Chinese-style Solution to the National Problems

Although the Leninist line gradually deviated in the Soviet political environment, the Comintern had already introduced the revolutionary experience to China. In particular, the program documents put forward in the second period of the Communist Party of China have already reflected that the Communist Party of China is taking the road of national self-determination and has inherited the revolutionary experience of Lenin's style. The communist party of China in this period is to perform some sample tasks, and the completion of these tasks is mainly from the experience of the Soviet union wants to build a including hq and frontier minority areas of China's unification "of the federal republic of China", but at the time also did not find the federal do not accord with China's national conditions, only toward this goal, at the time of the communist party of China to the pursuit of self-determination is not enough reality, so it can be seen that in early days of the communist party of China, the Soviet communist international authority of high pressure, of course it is also because the Soviet regime of a successful sample, Therefore, it has a considerable credibility and reference value at that time. At the early stage of its founding, the Communist Party of China (CPC) realized that the masses at the bottom of China were huge and would be a huge force for the revolution. To oppose imperialism and achieve national independence was not only to satisfy the people's desire for liberation, but also the internal force for the CPC to gain political power. However, the Soviet command was doomed to failure, so the Communist Party of China gradually began to explore a real solution to the Chinese people of all ethnic groups of equality, unity, mutual assistance and harmony of the political order.

Through the analysis in the book, the communist party of China take the ethnic regional autonomy for ethnic governance is the basic constitutional has its inevitability, on constructing Chinese national governance and country, whether it is a family of five republican constitutionalism idea, or the beiyang government, nanjing national government of the relevant political practice, China is trying to solve a multi-ethnic country nation system and the governance problem, but failed to achieve its ultimate goal. After accumulating the failure experience in the early stage, the Communist Party of China has chosen the system of regional ethnic autonomy as the constitutional arrangement of ethnic governance in China, a multi-

ethnic country, in various theoretical practices. The early relevant practice was the theoretical sprout of the system of regional ethnic autonomy, whose purpose was to realize the Liberation of the Chinese nation from the bondage of imperialism and lay a solid theoretical and practical foundation for China's regional ethnic autonomy, and the framework of regional ethnic autonomy was initially formed.

Lenin's national theory for guiding role in the proletarian revolution, this is the first time because he led the communist revolution to victory and took power, while the localization of Lenin routes in China is also gradually in the process of adjustment and transformation, and solve the problems in the nation, China shall practise a system of regional national autonomy is built on the basis of national self-determination, and Chinese national self-determination is Lenin route as a basis, so the regional national autonomy is a supplement of proletarian revolution theory, is also a typical experience of the development of a socialist country, is the route of self-determination study Lenin and extension.

Since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, the CPC has continued to give priority to ethnic issues in its development. This shows that the solution of ethnic issues still faces difficulties and challenges, and that China is constantly striving for progress in spite of these difficulties. China's political discourse system is developing and perfecting, and ethnic problems, solve the problem of also need to build national discourse system, since the historical development has laid a good foundation, the communist party of China is now focusing on enhancing road confident, this is also the improvement of the theory of marxism, Lenin route and development. China as the largest socialist country, now responsible for leading the development of historical mission, it is particularly important to build road with Chinese characteristics, especially in the new era, under the wave of seeking new political discourse system has become the focus, the solution of the ethnic problems is conform to the development of The Times need to make the adjustment, although we must always adhere to the constitutional of regional national autonomy, but in the concrete work, or seeking truth from facts, adjust measures to local conditions, it is also the outstanding advantage of the Communist Party of China.

### 3. Summary

Both Leninist self-determination to federal and regional national autonomy system with Chinese characteristics, is a socialist country constitutional arrangements and work in different periods, represents the development of the proletariat, the proletariat from gain power to govern the country, are in a tough pressure environment for change, so to make the revolution are more close to the masses of the people's interests. The communist party of China to the attention of the ethnic problems remain in the highest, is not only because of the need to maintain stability, more important is the Chinese communist regime can be achieved without multi-national joint effort, also cannot leave the revolutionary spirit of national equality, solidarity, mutual help harmonious, this is the core of solving the national problems of the communist party of China, is internalized in line and principles of the development of the party. The development and progress of the CPC cannot be separated from the guidance of Lenin's line. Especially in the face of China's multi-ethnic situation, it is of great significance for the CPC to transform Lenin's theory of national self-determination into the system of regional ethnic autonomy. Therefore, the Party has always been implementing the basic principles of Marxism, and in carrying out its work, it has referred to Lenin's practical experience, which is in line with the law of historical development. Lenin's theory of national self-determination is relatively idealized, so the main role of Lenin in the construction of China's regional ethnic autonomy system is to provide direction, clear construction purpose, the Communist Party of China needs to be reformed urgently in the early period of the founding of the People's Republic of China

needs this kind of programmatic path with practical significance. The common Program has achieved good results when the arrangement of regional ethnic autonomy is transferred to the transitional period of constitution. Therefore, the system of regional ethnic autonomy as a constitutional arrangement in new China is a successful historical experience.

At a time of great changes not seen in a century, the correct path for solving ethnic problems with Chinese characteristics in the new era has become the path for the Chinese people of all ethnic groups to build equal, unity, mutual assistance and harmonious ethnic relations. The communist party of China is more than just simple inherited Lenin regime construction scheme, but efforts to expand a new socialist development route, on the solution of the ethnic problems, the communist party of China to maintain high degree of confidence, for the people it is important to stability of the multinational country, is the important foundation of the communist party of China people identify with the motherland identity. The people always believe that the constitutional arrangement of regional ethnic autonomy can make the settlement of ethnic issues proceed smoothly. People always believe in national governance, so that the progress and development of the country will become a reality.

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